

**Remarks**

Applicants submit this amendment and these remarks in conjunction with a request for continued examination under 37 CFR § 1.114. Applicants believe that this request is proper and ask that these amendments be entered in this case. Applicants note that a Notice of Abandonment was mailed in this application on January 5, 2011. However, a Petition to Withdraw a Holding of Abandonment is being submitted concurrently herewith. Applicants further note that a Notice of Appeal was filed on November 8, 2011. Accordingly, Applicants, under 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a), hereby respectfully requests a three month extension of time for submitting an appeal brief. The associated petition fee (\$1,110) is being remitted concurrently herewith and Applicants ask that this be treated as a constructive petition for an extension of time in accordance with the United States Patent and Trademark Office Advisory notice of June 28, 2010. The period for response is thus extended up to and including April 8, 2011. As such, please consider this Request for Continued Examination and this Amendment as timely filed.

Applicants thank the Examiner for examining the claims of the present application and respectfully request reconsideration of both this application and the Office Action in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Applicants note that claims 1 – 27, 53 – 55, 59, 88 – 119, 121 – 123, 125 – 128, and 130 have been canceled without prejudice. As such, claims 28 – 52, 56 – 58, 120, 124, and 129 are pending in this application.

**Double Patenting**

Claims 28 – 52, 56 – 58, 120, 124, and 129 have been rejected based on the non-statutory

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double patenting rejection over U.S. Patent No. 7,599,757, 7,447,560, and 7,440,813. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection. Applicants also note that the response submitted by Applicants on December 18, 2009 mentioned that a terminal disclaimer was being submitted concurrently within the response. However, no such terminal disclaimer was submitted. In order to expedite prosecution, a terminal disclaimer is being submitted concurrently with this submission. As such, Applicant's ask that this rejection be withdrawn.

As stated above, Applicants are Petitioning for a three month extension of time to response and authorize the Director to charge the associated petition fee (\$1,110) to Deposit Account No. 50-4256. Although it is believed that no additional fees are due in conjunction with this submission, should the Office determine that a deficiency in the fees filed exists (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application), the Director is authorized to charge any such fees, together with any other fees that may be necessary to maintain the pendency of this application, including any fees under 37 C.F.R. §1.16 or §1.17, to Deposit Account No. 50-4256.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that all of the pending claims are in a condition for allowance. Favorable action in this regard is courteously awaited at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

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